

NOV 03 2003

THORPE
NORTH &
WESTERN L.L.P.
SINCE 1979
THE TEAM APPROACH TO PREMIER PERFORMANCE ®

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW

PATENTS, TRADEMARKS,

COPYRIGHTS, UNFAIR

COMPETITION, TRADE SECRETS,

LITIGATION, DISPUTE RESOLUTION

AND RELATED MATTERS

SALT LAKE AREA OFFICE
8180 SOUTH 700 EAST, SUITE 200
SANDY, UTAH 84070-0562
801.566.6633
801.566.0750 FAX
PATLAW@TNW.COM
WWW.TNW.COM

U.S. MAILING ADDRESS
P.O. Box 1219
SANDY, UTAH 84091-1219

LAS VEGAS AREA OFFICE
OF COUNSEL: NEIL J. BELLER †
7408 WEST SAHARA
LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89117
702.368.7767
† ADMITTED IN NEVADA

VAUGHN W. NORTH
M. WAYNE WESTERN
GARRON M. HOBSON
PETER M. DE JONGE
CLIFTON W. THOMPSON
STEVE M. PERRY
WEILI CHENG, PH.D.
DAVID R. MCKINNEY, PE.
GARY P. OAKESON
DAVID W. OSBORNE
DAVID L. STOTT
JASON R. JONES
PAUL C. OESTREICH, M.S.
ERIK S. ERICKSEN, M.S.
REGISTERED PATENT ATTORNEYS

NATHAN S. WINESETT
OF COUNSEL

BRYAN K. HANKS
PATENT AGENT

ALEX HAYMOND, B.S. EE
TODD B. ALDER, PH.D.
JONATHAN M. BENNS, PH.D.
AARON M. SMITH, B.S. EE
WILLIAM T. RALSTON, PH.D. EE
TECHNICAL CONSULTANTS

CALVIN E. THORPE
(1938-1999)

October 30, 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: U.S. Patent Application No. 10/629,440 filed July 28, 2003
Applicant: David J. Laws, et al.
Title: **LOCKING MECHANISM FOR FOLDING LEGS**
Group Art Unit: 3637
Attorney Docket No. T8889.CIP

Sir/Madam:

Transmitted herewith for filing and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97 is an Information Disclosure Statement.

Enclosed also are the following designated documents, as required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98:

- ☒ Form PTO-1449 list of 19 references submitted for consideration.
- ☒ Legible copies of the listed references or their relevant portions.
- ☐ All English translations of each non-English reference, if any, within the possession, custody, control or availability of anyone designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) (see 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(c)).

The following are included within the Information Disclosure Statement if applicable and as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98:


- ☐ Concise explanation of relevance of each reference not in English and unaccompanied by an English translation.
- ☐ Statement that certain listed references not enclosed are substantially cumulative of an enclosed reference.
- ☐ Statement that certain listed references not enclosed were previously cited by or submitted to the Office in the identified prior application which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

In order to secure consideration of the items designated above, one or more of the following, if required, is also enclosed:

- ☐ Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1) or (2).
- ☐ Check No. _____ in the amount of _____ (amount in § 1.17(p)) constituting the submission fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).

In the event that 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) applies and the Examiner is not satisfied that the Statement meets the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), or in any other event remediable by a fee, please credit any over payment or charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 20-0100 of the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



David R. McKinney
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 42,868

THORPE NORTH & WESTERN, LLP
Customer No. 20,551
P.O. Box 1219
Sandy, Utah 84091-1219
Telephone: (801) 566-6633



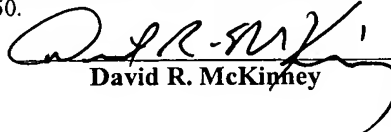
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARKS OFFICE

ART UNIT: 3637
EXAMINER:
APPLICANT: David J. Laws, et al.
SERIAL NO.: 10/629,440
FILED: 7/28/2003
CONFRM. NO.: 5739
FOR: LOCKING MECHANISM FOR FOLDING
LEGS

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

DATE OF DEPOSIT: 10/30/03

I hereby certify that this paper or fee (along with any paper or fee referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


David R. McKipney

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

Please find, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(1), the enclosed Form PTO-1449 which contains a list of all patents, publications, or other items that have come to the attention of one or more of the individuals designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c). Applicant respectfully submits that this Information Disclosure Statement is filed pursuant to:

☒ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b)(1) or (3), within three months of the filing date of the application, or before a first office action on the merits, whichever occurs last;

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (c), after a first office action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action or a Notice of Allowance, whichever occurs first, and is accompanied by either 1) a statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), or 2) the fee set forth in § 1.17(p); or

☐ 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (d), after a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, whichever occurs first, but on or before payment of the issue fee, and is accompanied by both 1) a statement in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e), and 2) the fee set forth in § 1.17(p).

While no representation is made that any of these references may be "prior art" within the meaning of that term in accordance with 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 or 103, the enclosed list of references is disclosed so as to comply with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

Moreover, while no representation is made that a specific search of office files or patent office records has been conducted or that no better art exists, the undersigned attorney of record believes that the references listed, together with any other references which may have been previously submitted or listed, are the closest to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) of which the undersigned is presently aware, and no art which is closer to the claimed invention (taken in its entirety) has been knowingly withheld.

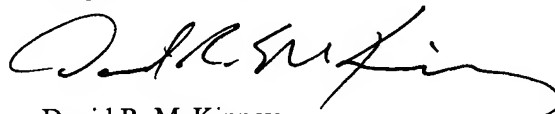
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, a copy of each listed reference (or relevant portion thereof) which was not previously submitted to, or cited by, the Patent Office is also enclosed.

For all listed references that are not either in the English language, or accompanied by a translation into English, a concise explanation of relevance as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) is enclosed attached to each.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0100.

Dated this 30th day of October, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,



David R. McKinney
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 42,868

THORPE NORTH & WESTERN, LLP
Customer No. 20,551
P.O. Box 1219
Sandy, Utah 84091-1219
Telephone: (801) 566-6633



PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. T8889.CIP	SERIAL NO. 10/629,440
		APPLICANT David J. Laws, et al.	
		FILING DATE July 28, 2003	GROUP _____

LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIALS		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	A1	3,419,295	3/18/66	Small, S. N.			
	A2	3,844,517	10/29/74	C. W. Fraser			
	A3	4,383,486	5/17/83	R. G. Reineman, et al.			
	A4	4,407,479	10/4/83	H. Combe			
	A5	4,561,622	12/31/85	E. Heinzl			
	A6	4,617,869	10/21/86	E. A. Denomey			
	A7	4,747,569	5/31/88	Y. Hoshino			
	A8	4,830,250	5/16/89	D. Newbold, et al.			
	A9	5,056,699	10/15/91	D. Newbold, et al.			
	A10	5,062,179	11/5/91	M. Huang			
	A11	5,211,323	5/18/93	T. A. Chimenti, et al.			
	A12	5,213,004	5/25/93	A. Hoblingre			
	A13	5,367,815	11/29/94	S. Liou			
	A14	5,265,969	11/30/93	C. Chuang			
	A15	5,323,713	6/28/94	H. E/ Luyk, et al.			
	A16	5,413,015	5/9/95	J. Zentmyer			
	A17	5,520,474	5/28/96	Y. Liu			
	A18	5,845,589	12/8/98	J. W. Pfister			
	A19	5,964,443	10/12/99	R. G. Leveille			

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	A20	
	A21	
	A22	
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.		